

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Claims 1-19 remain in the application. Claims 15 and 19 have been amended.

In the section entitled "Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112" on page 2 of the above-identified Office action, claim 19 has been rejected as being indefinite under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

More specifically, the Examiner has stated that the location and relation of the interface board and the relation between contact pins and the contact surface as recited in claim 19 (the Examiner erroneously referred to claim 12) are not clear.

The language of claim 19 has been amended to even more clearly define the invention and to overcome the alleged deficiencies.

It is accordingly believed that the claims meet the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Should the Examiner find any further objectionable items, counsel would appreciate a telephone call during which the matter may be resolved. The above-noted changes to the claims are provided

solely for cosmetic and/or clarificatory reasons. The changes are neither provided for overcoming the prior art nor do they narrow the scope of the claims for any reason related to the statutory requirements for a patent.

In the section entitled "Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102" on pages 2-4 of the above-mentioned Office action, claims 1-4, 7-10, and 17-18 have been rejected as being anticipated by Nishikawa (US Pat. No. 6,411,079) under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e).

In the section entitled "Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103" on pages 4-7 of the above-mentioned Office action, claims 5-6, 12, and 14-16 have been rejected as being unpatentable over Nishikawa and further in view of Official Notice under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a); claim 11 has been rejected as being unpatentable over Nishikawa and further in view of Vinson et al. (International Application No. PCT/GB98/03262) under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a); claim 19 has been rejected as being unpatentable over Nishikawa and further in view of Barker (UK Patent Application publication GB 2 240 435 A) under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

Enclosed please find a Declaration under 37 CFR 1.131 together with a copy of the "Invention Disclosure" ("Erfindungsmeldung"), a report of the invention by the

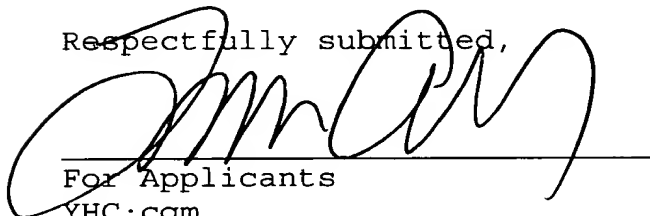
inventors prepared on **March 1, 2000**, which date is before the filing date **May 30, 2000** of Nishikawa. The document Nishikawa is therefore not available as a prior art reference for the instant application. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that the Section 102 and Section 103 rejections on pages 2-7 of the Office action are now moot.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-19 are solicited.

In the event the Examiner should still find any of the claims to be unpatentable, counsel would appreciate a telephone call so that, if possible, patentable language can be worked out.

If an extension of time for this paper is required, petition for extension is herewith made. Please charge any fees which might be due with respect to Sections 1.16 and 1.17 to the Deposit Account of Lerner and Greenberg, P.A., No. 12-1099.

Respectfully submitted,



**LAURENCE A. GREENBERG**  
**REG. NO. 29,308**

For Applicants

YHC:cgm

October 8, 2003

Lerner and Greenberg, P.A.

Post Office Box 2480

Hollywood, FL 33022-2480

Tel: (954) 925-1100

Fax: (954) 925-1101